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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

OCTOBER 1984

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

ABOVE-AVERAGE NUMBER OF MAINE PERSONS WORKING PART-TIME FOR ECONOMIC REASONS

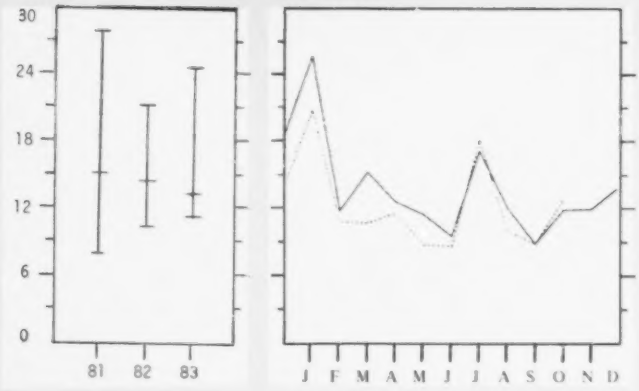
MORE THAN 1.2 MILLION NEW ENGLANDERS WERE EMPLOYED ON A PART-TIME BASIS DURING 1983. OF THIS NUMBER, MORE THAN 270,000 WERE WORKING PART-TIME FOR ECONOMIC REASONS. THESE DATA, AS WELL AS OTHER LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT DATA FOR STATES AND MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS, ARE AVAILABLE ANNUALLY FROM THE CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS BUREAU FOR THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

DURING 1983, APPROXIMATELY 22 PERCENT OF ALL NEW ENGLANDERS WHO WERE WORKING PART-TIME WERE DOING SO INVOLUNTARILY BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC REASONS. ECONOMIC REASONS INCLUDE: THE INABILITY TO FIND FULL-TIME WORK, MATERIAL SHORTAGES, SLACK WORK, AND REPAIRS TO PLANT AND EQUIPMENT. NATIONALLY, NEARLY 31 PERCENT OF PART-TIMERS WERE ON LESS THAN FULL-TIME SCHEDULES FOR ECONOMIC REASONS. WITHIN NEW ENGLAND, ONLY VERMONT AND MAINE, EACH WITH 32 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL PART-TIME EMPLOYED DESIRING WORK ON FULL-TIME SCHEDULES, HAD ABOVE AVERAGE PERCENTAGES OF THE INVOLUNTARY PART-TIME. MASSACHUSETTS HAD THE LOWEST PERCENTAGE OF THESE WORKERS IN THE REGION.

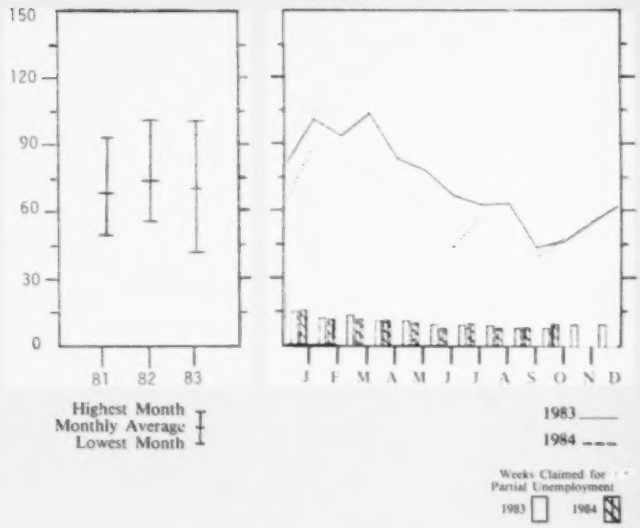
THERE WERE SHARP DIFFERENCES IN THE INCIDENCE OF PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN. WITHIN NEW ENGLAND LAST YEAR, 32.7 PERCENT OF ALL EMPLOYED WOMEN WERE WORKING PART-TIME, MORE THAN 82 PERCENT OF THEM VOLUNTARILY. AMONG EMPLOYED MEN IN THE REGION, HOWEVER, ONLY 11.5 PERCENT WERE WORKING PART-TIME SCHEDULES, WITH ALMOST ONE-THIRD OF THEM WORKING PART-TIME BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC REASONS. NATIONALLY, A SOMEWHAT SMALLER PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN AND A SLIGHTLY LARGER PERCENTAGE OF MEN WERE ON PART-TIME SCHEDULES DURING 1983 THAN WAS THE CASE IN NEW ENGLAND.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

UI Initial Claims
in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
in Thousands



AMONG THE NEW ENGLAND STATES, VOLUNTARY PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT WAS MOST PREVALENT IN MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND, AND RELATIVELY LESS SO IN VERMONT AND MAINE. IN TOTAL, 16.3 PERCENT OF ALL EMPLOYED NEW ENGLANDERS AND 14.1 OF ALL WORKERS NATIONWIDE WERE ON VOLUNTARY PART-TIME SCHEDULES LAST YEAR. THE PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS WHO WERE INVOLUNTARILY WORKING PART-TIME DURING 1983 WAS HIGHEST IN MAINE AND VERMONT AND LOWEST IN MASSACHUSETTS.

COMPARING THESE STATISTICS ON PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT WITH SIMILAR DATA FROM FIVE YEARS AGO, THERE IS NO DISCERNIBLE TREND OF WORKERS OPTING INCREASINGLY FOR LESS THAN FULL-TIME WORK. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE--FROM 20 PERCENT TO 20.8 PERCENT--IN THE PERCENTAGE OF ALL EMPLOYED NEW ENGLANDERS WORKING PART-TIME, ALL OF THIS CHANGE TOOK PLACE IN THE CATEGORY OF WORKERS CLASSIFIED AS INVOLUNTARY PART-TIMERS. NATIONALLY, PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT INCREASED MORE SHARPLY, FROM 18 PERCENT OF ALL EMPLOYMENT IN 1978 TO 20.3 PERCENT LAST YEAR.

ALTHOUGH VOLUNTARY PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT INCREASED BY ONLY ABOUT 5 PERCENT BOTH REGIONALLY AND NATIONALLY OVER THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD, THOSE WORKING PART-TIME FOR ECONOMIC REASONS INCREASED BY ABOUT 37 PERCENT IN NEW ENGLAND AND BY OVER 80 PERCENT IN THE U.S. AS A WHOLE. MORE THAN 6.2 MILLION AMERICANS--272,000 OF THEM NEW ENGLANDERS--WERE INVOLUNTARY PART-TIME WORKERS DURING 1983. THERE WERE MARKED DIFFERENCES AMONG THE SIX NEW ENGLAND STATES IN THE INCREASE OF INVOLUNTARY PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OVER THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. MASSACHUSETTS HAD THE LOWEST RATE OF INCREASE AT 14 PERCENT, WHILE RHODE ISLAND HAD THE HIGHEST RATE AT 100 PERCENT. NEW HAMPSHIRE MATCHED THE NATIONAL INCREASE AT 83 PERCENT, WHILE VERMONT AND MAINE RECORDED A 55 PERCENT INCREASE AND CONNECTICUT A 39 PERCENT INCREASE. (SEE RELATED TABLE ON PAGE 6)

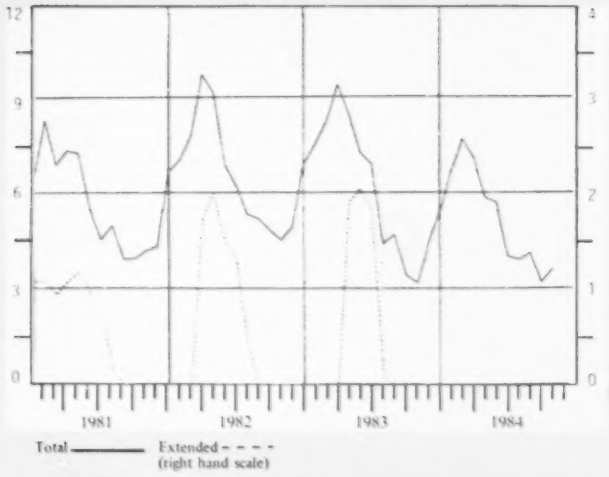
Source: Selected portions of an October 4, 1984 news release entitled "About 22 Percent of All Employed New Englanders Work Part-Time; One Third of Working Women are Part-Timers," published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Boston Regional Office.

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

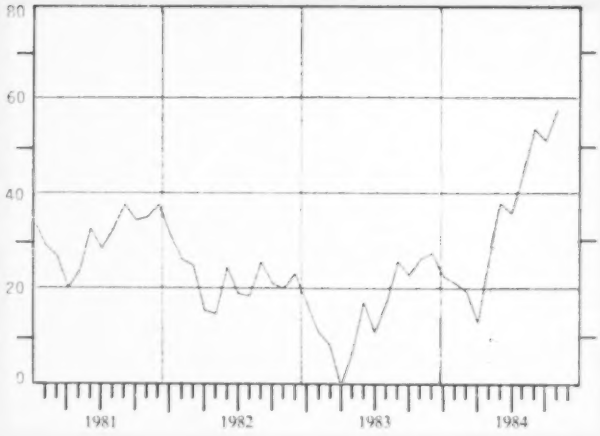
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

in Thousands

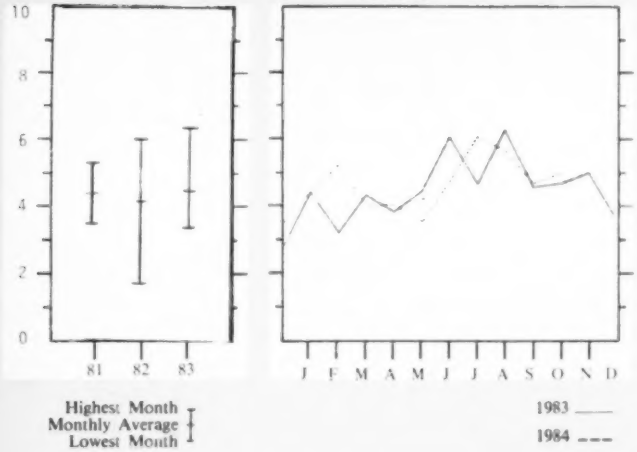
ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary 1/	441.1	442.8	430.5	104.2	103.2	98.6	34.2	34.2	34.3
Total Manufacturing	108.9	109.2	111.4	17.1	17.2	16.4	10.9	11.1	11.6
Durable Goods	43.5	43.2	41.8	7.9	7.9	6.5	2.3	2.4	2.1
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	13.6	13.7	13.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Metals and Machinery	16.8	16.8	15.1	6.2	6.1	5.6	1.8	1.9	1.7
Other Durable Goods 3/	13.1	12.7	13.3	1.2	1.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3
Nondurable Goods	65.4	66.0	69.6	9.2	9.3	9.9	8.6	8.7	9.5
Food and Kindred Products	8.7	8.4	8.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.8	0.8	0.9
Textile Mill Products	6.7	6.9	7.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4	1.5	1.6
Apparel	4.8	4.9	4.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.1	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	18.6	18.8	18.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.7	0.6
Leather and Leather Products	16.6	17.0	20.6	2.4	2.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.7
Footwear (except Rubber)	13.7	14.1	17.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.8	2.8	3.1
All Other	2.9	2.9	3.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	10.0	10.0	10.0	4.8	4.9	4.6	2.2	2.2	2.6
Total Nonmanufacturing	332.2	333.6	319.1	87.1	86.0	82.2	23.3	23.1	22.7
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	*	*	*	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	19.7	19.3	19.5	4.7	4.6	4.5	1.5	1.5	1.4
Transportation and Public Utilities	18.5	18.8	18.4	5.7	5.7	5.7	1.2	1.1	1.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	101.6	105.2	95.6	29.2	29.1	27.3	8.2	8.1	8.0
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	19.1	19.2	18.0	9.0	9.0	8.5	1.7	1.8	1.6
Services	87.7	89.7	83.7	23.9	24.4	22.3	7.6	7.5	7.2
Government	85.4	81.2	83.7	14.6	13.2	13.9	3.1	3.1	3.2
Federal	18.1	18.0	18.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.3
State and Local 5/	67.3	63.2	65.4	13.2	11.8	12.5	2.9	2.9	2.9
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full - and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 37, 38, 39; Portland - 32, 37, 38, 39; Lewiston - 25, 32, 37, 39. 4/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 27, 28, 29, 30; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30; Lewiston - 23, 27, 28, 29, 30. 5/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 100.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

New Applications For Work

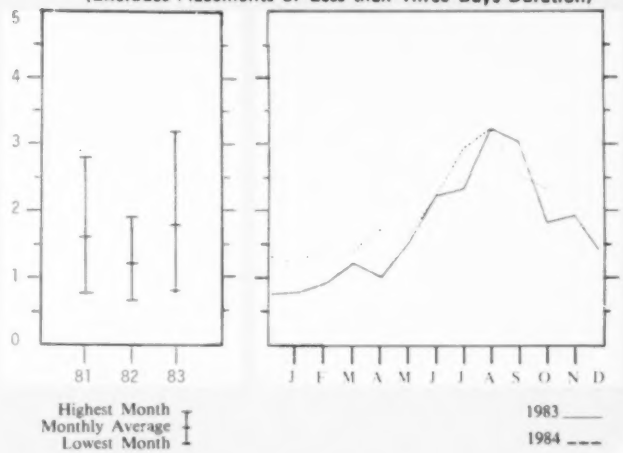
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1983	1982	1981
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$329.15	$329.64	$306.80	39.8	40.2	40.0	$8.27	$8.20	$7.67	$7.61	$7.22	$6.66
Durable Goods	344.29	342.72	324.82	40.6	40.8	40.2	8.48	8.40	8.08	8.04	7.59	6.97
Lumber and Wood Products	323.21	322.64	309.20	40.3	41.1	40.9	8.02	7.85	7.56	7.37	6.87	6.52
Metals and Machinery	320.78	319.99	305.56	40.4	40.2	40.1	7.94	7.96	7.62	7.59	7.15	6.61
Other Durable Goods	401.70	400.20	368.68	41.2	41.3	39.6	9.75	9.69	9.31	9.31	8.84	7.98
Nondurable Goods	319.51	320.79	297.26	39.3	39.8	39.9	8.13	8.06	7.45	7.37	7.00	6.48
Food and Kindred Products	230.75	234.61	211.67	35.5	36.6	34.7	6.50	6.41	6.10	6.10	5.84	5.50
Textile Mill Products	258.96	260.41	252.95	41.5	41.4	42.3	6.24	6.29	5.98	5.87	5.49	5.17
Apparel	197.38	202.21	206.42	35.5	36.5	37.6	5.56	5.54	5.49	5.39	5.23	4.97
Paper and Allied Products	532.22	531.63	513.02	44.5	44.6	45.4	11.96	11.92	11.30	10.95	10.10	9.27
Leather and Leather Products	206.26	206.70	207.76	35.5	36.2	37.3	5.81	5.71	5.57	5.59	5.46	5.10
Other Nondurable Goods	287.56	291.51	262.02	39.5	40.6	39.7	7.28	7.18	6.60	6.60	6.23	5.75
PORTLAND SMSA												
Manufacturing	310.95	308.70	295.29	38.2	38.3	38.2	8.14	8.06	7.73	7.67	7.19	6.49
LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA												
Manufacturing	249.16	248.87	245.57	37.3	37.2	39.8	6.68	6.69	6.17	6.16	5.96	5.57

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	234.0	241.5	223.5
Unemployed	14.9	15.4	18.9
(Percent)	6.4%	6.4%	8.5%
Resident Employed	219.1	226.1	204.6

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec
(1967=100) All Items	315.3	314.5	302.6	303.5

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.3%
Percent Change from Last December	+3.9%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+4.2%

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1	LABOR FORCE 2			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	540.1	568.6	538.1	513.6	541.0	499.6	26.5	27.6	38.5	4.9	4.9	7.2
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor-Brewer LMA	43,700	43,100	44,200	42,000	41,400	41,100	1,700	1,700	3,100	3.9	3.9	7.0
Biddeford-Sanford LMA	33,700	34,300	33,900	31,900	32,500	31,700	1,800	1,800	2,200	5.3	5.2	6.5
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	39,000	39,300	39,100	36,600	36,900	36,200	2,400	2,400	2,900	6.2	6.1	7.4
Portland SMSA	104,400	103,900	100,000	101,100	100,600	94,400	3,300	3,300	5,600	3.2	3.2	5.6
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	29,510	30,180	29,400	28,030	28,610	27,590	1,480	1,570	1,810	5.0	5.2	6.2
Bath-Brunswick	23,660	23,770	25,040	22,850	22,960	23,560	810	810	1,480	3.4	3.4	5.9
Belfast	11,330	11,350	11,750	10,440	10,510	10,580	890	840	1,170	7.9	7.4	10.0
Boothbay Harbor Wiscasset	8,590	9,560	9,240	8,250	9,190	8,700	340	370	540	4.0	3.9	5.8
Calais Eastport	14,800	15,930	14,870	13,780	14,860	13,440	1,020	1,070	1,430	6.9	6.7	9.6
Caribou-Presque Isle	20,730	27,850	21,760	19,000	25,260	18,320	1,730	2,590	3,440	8.3	9.3	15.8
Central Penobscot	3,590	3,550	3,740	3,410	3,400	3,510	180	150	230	5.0	4.2	6.1
Dover-Foxcroft	6,560	6,660	6,550	6,240	6,310	6,110	320	350	440	4.9	5.3	6.7
Ellsworth	22,430	24,300	21,430	21,530	23,440	20,330	900	860	1,100	4.0	3.5	5.1
Farmington	12,700	12,710	13,310	11,760	11,790	12,220	940	920	1,090	7.4	7.2	8.2
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,880	9,460	5,340	5,530	8,960	4,960	350	590	380	6.0	5.3	7.1
Greenville	1,680	1,610	1,790	1,570	1,500	1,730	110	110	60	6.5	6.8	3.4
Houlton	5,190	7,920	5,260	4,890	7,500	4,760	300	420	500	5.8	5.3	9.5
Lincoln-Howland	5,990	5,940	5,910	5,700	5,710	5,530	290	230	380	4.8	3.9	6.4
Livermore Falls	6,490	6,870	6,100	5,890	6,260	5,530	600	610	570	9.2	8.9	9.3
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,310	6,360	4,510	4,020	5,970	3,980	290	390	530	6.7	6.1	11.8
Mechanic Falls	2,550	2,640	2,290	2,340	2,430	2,040	210	210	250	8.2	8.0	10.9
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,020	5,050	5,040	4,850	4,890	4,720	170	160	320	3.4	3.2	6.3
Patten-Island Falls	2,290	4,160	2,410	2,190	4,000	2,210	100	160	200	4.4	3.8	8.3
Rockland	18,370	18,810	18,030	17,540	18,020	16,790	830	790	1,240	4.5	4.2	6.9
Rumford	19,860	19,780	20,880	18,500	18,430	19,180	1,360	1,350	1,700	6.8	6.8	8.1
Sebago Lake Region	12,010	12,860	11,640	11,540	12,360	10,910	470	500	730	3.9	3.9	6.3
Skowhegan	21,820	22,280	21,520	20,350	20,920	19,410	1,470	1,360	2,110	6.7	6.1	9.8
Kittery-York	23,570	27,920	22,990	23,100	27,440	22,430	470	480	560	2.0	1.7	2.4
Southwest Penobscot	8,250	8,390	8,110	7,640	7,770	7,300	610	620	810	7.4	7.4	10.0
Waterville	22,100	22,280	21,850	21,060	21,220	20,230	1,040	1,060	1,620	4.7	4.8	7.4
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,678.4	1,614.4	n/a	1,606.5	1,535.2	n/a	71.9	79.2	n/a	4.3	4.9
Massachusetts	3,054.0	3,048.0	3,014.4	2,950.0	2,910.0	2,820.4	104.0	137.0	194.0	3.4	4.5	6.4
New Hampshire	n/a	528.9	511.7	n/a	514.0	493.2	n/a	14.9	18.5	n/a	2.8	3.6
Rhode Island	500.6	498.2	477.0	478.5	475.7	447.1	22.1	22.5	29.9	4.4	4.5	6.3
Vermont	279.0	276.9	269.1	269.7	267.1	255.6	9.3	9.8	13.5	3.3	3.5	5.0
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	6,029.4	5,886.6	n/a	5,773.3	5,551.5	n/a	256.1	335.1	n/a	4.2	5.7
UNITED STATES 3/	114,250	113,843	112,042	106,262	105,792	102,659	7,989	8,051	9,383	7.0	7.1	8.4

Area Definitions
LMA - Labor Market Area
SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note
n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes
1. Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2. Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
3. National estimates based on a sample of household visits, state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND SMSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	7,233	7,435	8,275	850	821	1,105	775	850	529
Insured Unemployment Rate *	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.0	0.9	1.3	2.4	2.6	1.6

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

NUMBER OF FULL- AND PART-TIME EMPLOYED

1978 AND 1983 ANNUAL AVERAGES

(numbers in thousands)

AREA	TOTAL EMPLOYMENT		FULL-TIME SCHEDULES		PART-TIME FOR ECONOMIC REASONS		VOLUNTARY PART-TIME	
	1978	1983	1978	1983	1978	1983	1978	1983
MASSACHUSETTS	2,663	2,781	2,121	2,203	92	105	450	473
CONNECTICUT	1,433	1,512	1,150	1,207	49	68	234	237
RHODE ISLAND	405	437	325	338	13	26	67	73
MAINE	**444**	**488**	**351**	**381**	**22**	**34**	**71**	**73**
NEW HAMPSHIRE	412	476	339	379	12	22	61	75
VERMONT	223	249	176	196	11	17	36	36
NEW ENGLAND	5,580	5,943	4,462	4,704	199	272	919	967
UNITED STATES	94,373	100,833	77,396	80,395	3,428	6,266	13,549	14,172

The Bureau of Employment Security is affiliated with the U.S. Employment and Training Administration and is a Federal-State Statistical Program Cooperative Representative of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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OCTOBER 1984

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

Labor Market Information Services